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TOWCESTER RURAL DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1948



D. A. McCracken, M.D.

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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1948.

Area (acres)	59,005
Population 1931 (Census) Potterspury and Towcester R.D.s							13,458
„ 1948 (Mid-year Estimate, Registrar-General) ..							13,910
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1931 (Census)							
						Potterspury and Towcester R.D.s	3,771
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1948					..	..	5,158
Rateable Value, 1948	..	..	..	..	..	..	£54,712
Product of a Penny Rate, 1948				..	..	..	£211

Live Births—					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	223	118	105	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	15	4	11	
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	17.11
					238	122	116	

Stillbirths—					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	4	2	2	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
					<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	0.27
					4	2	2	

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Deaths (all causes)	..	..	..	..	184	91	93	13.23

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	..	..	..	..				<i>Nil.</i>
Other maternal causes	..	..	..	..				<i>Nil.</i>

Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births—

Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42.91
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200.00
								<hr/>
					Total	..	..	54.62

Deaths from	Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	27
„	„ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	<i>Nil.</i>
„	„ Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	1
„	„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	<i>Nil</i>

Towcester Rural District Council.

Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee:

Messrs. C. E. IVENS (*Chairman*), T. F. KINGSTON (*Vice-Chairman*), A. BOOT, E. W. COLBOURNE, J. R. FOUNTAINE, J. A. GARLICK, Rev. H. P. HOSKIN, Mrs. M. JELLEY, Messrs. W. H. MARLOW, J. T. PINKARD, R. L. C. RIDGEWAY, A. K. TATTERSALL, W. E. WARREN, R. H. WHITLOCK.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members of the Committee.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health—

DAVID ANDREW McCracken, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health ;

Deputy School Medical Officer ;

Medical Officer, Kettering Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre.

Sanitary Inspector:

DAVID JOSEPH POWELL, B.Sc., C.S.I.A., Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Surveyor and Architect:

GEORGE BERRIDGE, M.Inst.R.A., A.I.A.A.

TOWCESTER,

August, 1949.

**To the Chairman and Councillors of the
Rural District of Towcester.**

Mr. Chairman, My Lord, Mesdames and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1948. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in Ministry of Health Circular 3/49.

In general the vital statistics may be regarded as satisfactory. Zymotic diseases were few, apart from the anticipated outbreaks of measles.

The number of houses completed by the Council totalled 244, making a total of 1,084 since the end of hostilities. The Council can take justifiable pride in this achievement and also the officials responsible for detailed work and supervision. The village slum continues to stand out in relief against the well-designed Council house. Much work will be required to solve this problem and I am hopeful that the time is not far distant when this work can be tackled systematically. Slow progress was made with the water scheme, but this is probably accounted for by the immense amount of field and office work to be completed before the constructional work is possible. It is regrettable that the sewerage scheme for the southern area has had to be held in abeyance until 1951.

My thanks are again due to my colleagues for their co-operation. Mr. Powell recently qualified as an Inspector of Meat and Other Foods. I am particularly grateful to the Council for the encouragement given to the pupil Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hall, in relation to his studies. These academic efforts serve to improve the standard of service which the Public Health Department gives the community.

In conclusion, I am particularly grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their advice and assistance, which they so readily afford the Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

D. A. McCRACKEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Social Conditions.—The employed population is engaged mainly in agricultural work. Light iron founding is carried on at Towcester, whilst oxides for pigment production are manufactured at Deanshanger. Of recent years a number of small factories have been opened in the district for the manufacture of boots and shoes.

Area.—The area of the District is 59,005 acres.

Population.—The Registrar-General has estimated the resident mid-year population for 1948 to have been 13,910, as compared with 13,750 for 1947. The excess of births over deaths was 54, whilst the estimated increase in population amounted to 160 persons.

Deaths.—The total number of deaths assigned to the district by the Registrar-General after adjustment for outward and inward transferable deaths was 184, as compared with 178 in 1947. Of the total deaths, 153 persons who died were over 65 years of age. The following shows the grouping for this age distribution of deaths and includes one centenarian.

—70	—75	—80	80+
23	32	30	48

The crude death rate based on the estimated population was 13.23 per thousand, as compared with 12.94 for 1947. The following table shows the death rates for the quinquennium 1944–48, together with corresponding rates for England and Wales and the Administrative County.

Death Rates 1944–48.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Towcester R.D. . .	14.04	12.88	13.19	12.94	13.23
Administrative County	12.60	12.34	12.00	12.43	11.00
England and Wales	11.60	14.40	11.50	12.00	10.80

A list of the causes of death classified according to the International List of Causes of Death (1938) is given in Table No. 1, page 17, whilst the history of the rate, together with other vital statistics for 1919–48, is shown in Table No. 3, page 18.

Births.—The number of live births assigned to the district was 238 (122 males, 116 females), as compared with 283 in 1947, thus giving a rate of 17.11 per thousand of population, as compared with 20.58 for the previous year. The following table shows the trend of the birth rate for 1944–48, and other rates for comparison.

Birth Rate 1944-48.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Towcester R.D. . .	17.67	16.14	20.24	20.58	17.11
Administrative County	20.07	18.98	19.17	20.42	17.46
England and Wales	17.60	16.10	19.10	20.50	17.90

Stillbirths.—The number of stillbirths registered was four, as compared with five in 1947. All were legitimate births. The number is equivalent to 0.27 per thousand of population, as compared with 0.42 for England and Wales. The rates per thousand total births for 1944-48, together with corresponding rates for England and Wales were :

Stillbirth Rate 1944-48.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Towcester R.D. . .	32.00	17.24	45.93	17.36	16.52
England and Wales	27.70	28.00	27.00	24.00	

Illegitimate Birth Rate.—Fifteen illegitimate live births were registered, as compared with 19 in 1947. This number gives a rate of 63.02 per thousand live births, as compared with 67.13 for 1947.

Maternal Mortality.—There were no deaths.

Infant Mortality.—The number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday was 13 (8 males, 5 females). Three were illegitimate. The equivalent rate per thousand live births was 54.62, as compared with 34.00 for the country as a whole. The rates for 1944-48, together with other rates for comparison are :

Deaths under one year per thousand Live Births.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Towcester R.D. . .	30.01	22.80	47.25	28.19	54.62
Administrative County	38.00	39.17	36.86	35.07	31.70
England and Wales	46.00	46.00	43.00	41.00	34.00

Neonatal Mortality.—This sub-division of the infant mortality rate includes all infants who die within 28 days of independent existence. Eleven of the 13 babies who died in their first year of life were neonatal deaths. Details of the causes of death as certified are given in Table No. 2, page 18.

The rates per thousand related live births, and the rates for England and Wales for 1944-48 were :

Deaths under one month per thousand Live Births.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Towcester R.D. . .	37.79	4.38	37.39	17.71	46.21
England and Wales	24.35	24.76	24.46	22.70	

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.—The bacteriological work associated with the control of infectious disease is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, whose laboratory at Northampton General Hospital is in charge of Dr. L. Hoyle. The bacteriological examination of water supplies and ice cream is also carried out by Dr. Hoyle. The milk supply is examined for cleanliness and keeping quality at the County Council Laboratory, Northampton, where the methylene blue, coliform and phosphatase tests are applied, as required.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.—Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Regional Hospital Board is now responsible for the supply of antitoxin. Antitoxin may now be obtained by medical practitioners from the Northampton General Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities.—Under the new Health Act the County Council as the Local Health Authority became responsible for a free ambulance service on 5th July. Under the scheme approved by the Minister of Health this work is carried out on an agency basis by the Towcester Motor Ambulance Committee who receive payment from the County Council at the rate of £100 per annum, together with a shilling per mile for the 27 h.p. Humber Motor Ambulance which is stationed at Towcester. The service provided is sufficient for the needs of the district.

Nursing in the Home.—As from 5th July the responsibility for the provision of District Nurse Midwives became that of the Local Health Authority.

Hospitals.—There are no hospitals in the district. The Western Northamptonshire Joint Isolation Hospital Board ceased to exist on the appointed day. Infectious disease cases which require hospitalisation are accommodated by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board at their Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton, which is under the management of the Northampton Hospital Management Committee.

National Assistance Act, 1948.—Under Section 47 of this Act the Council became responsible for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. Persons who (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and (b) are unable to devote to themselves, or to receive from persons with whom they reside, proper care and attention may, after certain legal formalities, be detained and maintained in a suitable hospital or other place for prescribed periods. It was not found necessary to take any action under this Section of the Act during the year.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.—Child Welfare Centres provided by the County Council are held at the Village Hall, Potterspury, on the second Tuesday of each month, and at the Chapel Schoolroom, Brackley Road, Towcester, on the second Wednesday of each month. Immunisation is carried out at both Centres. An antenatal clinic is held on the fourth Friday of each month at the same premises as the Towcester Child Welfare Centre at 2 p.m. Expectant mothers in the Blisworth area can attend an antenatal clinic at the Health Department, Guildhall Road, Northampton, on Wednesday mornings.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—Progress in providing the comprehensive scheme was again disappointing. Towards the end of the year, however, hopes for a start being made on the laying of the principal trunk mains became more materialistic. Much of the surveying had been completed and tenders were invited for certain sections of the works. The delay in providing the water supply has retarded the provision of new houses in many villages.

Samples of drinking water taken in 14 parishes were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton, for bacteriological examination. The results show that only 11 of the 33 samples examined were beyond suspicion and classified as “good.” 13 samples which were reported on adversely showed evidence of faecal pollution. Details of the sources and the results of the examinations are given in Table No. 4, page 19.

The Ministry of Health, by Circular 3/49, direct that certain details as to individual parish supplies be included in this report. As there are no significant changes to be recorded as compared with those given in 1945, the reader is referred to pp. 25–29 of that Report.

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage.—Good progress falls to be recorded regarding the sewage disposal scheme for Silverstone. It is anticipated that the works will be completed before the end of 1949. No progress was made with the Deanshanger, Old Stratford, etc., scheme, but at the time of writing a starting date for 1951 had been sanctioned by the Ministry. With the approval of the Ministry the Council continue to build small temporary schemes of sewage disposal for new housing estates. The so-called temporary plant which has been constructed at Deanshanger to deal with the sewage from sixty houses does not appear to me to be of a temporary construction. The same may be said of the temporary scheme constructed at Yardley Gobion for the new housing estate. Both these works appear to me to have a life of many years.

Disinfection.—The disinfection of clothing and bedding is carried out by means of a portable “Thresh” disinfector. Concurrent and terminal disinfection is also carried out by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants as required. Details of the work done is given in Table No. 5, page 20.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, Infestation Order, 1943.—During the year 197 treatments were given to the various sites of the Council's undertakings and 225 dead rats were recovered. These undertakings include the three refuse tips, sewer ditches and outfalls, sewage farms, disposal works, salvage stores, etc. Two maintenance

treatments of the Towcester and Greens Norton sewage systems were successfully carried out. A total of 95 private dwellings were treated and 191 dead rats were recovered. In addition 42 business premises were treated and 85 dead rats found. The Rodent Operator also successfully dealt with several infestations by mice in private dwellings. Infestation by flies were treated in 23 premises and beetles were dealt with in 29 premises.

Public Cleansing.—The emptying of cess-pits and night soil buckets is carried out by means of a Dennis gully emptying vehicle which has a special device for dealing with buckets. Household refuse and salvage material is collected in a specially constructed refuse collection motor vehicle, assisted two days in one week and three days in the following week by the Council’s all-purpose open motor lorry. The scheme for the collection of refuse is as follows :—

Weekly Collection :

Old Stratford, Deanshanger, Passenheim	.. on Mondays.
Towcester .. .. .	.. on Thursdays.

Fortnightly Collection :

Cosgrove.. .. .	.. on alternate Mondays.
Wicken .. .. .	.. on alternate Mondays.
Pattishall, Cold Higham, Litchborough Maidford, Adstone, Ascote, Eastcote, Dalscote .. .. .	.. on alternate Tuesdays.
Potterspury, Paulerspury, Yardley Gobion..	.. on alternate Tuesdays.
Weston, Wappenham, Abthorpe, Slapton, Bradden .. .. .	.. on alternate Wednesdays.
Silverstone, Whittlebury .. .. .	.. on alternate Wednesdays.
Wood Burcote, Grafton Regis, Alderton	.. on alternate Thursdays.
Stoke Bruerne, Shutlanger .. .. .	.. on alternate Thursdays.
Caldecote, Greens Norton, Wood End, Blakesley .. .. .	.. on alternate Fridays.
Hulcote, Tiffield, Blisworth .. .. .	.. on alternate Fridays.

Further details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector are given in Table No. 5, page 20.

Factory Act, 1937.—Under Section 128 (3) of this Act the general provisions as to health conditions under which employees work and a return of out-workers has to be included in this report. Details of the inspections carried out, together with the defects found and the action taken thereon are given in Table No. 14, page 27. No notifications of out-workers were received under Sections 110–111.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The completion and occupation of 244 houses during the financial year ending March, 1949, brings the total number of houses provided by the Council to 1,084. Although this is an achievement which reflects clearly the demand for Council houses, it is by no means indicative that the housing problem is nearing solution. The general housing needs of the district appears to increase rather than diminish. The general housing standard of the district progressively improves with the result that the older type of cottage, where amenities are at a low level, stand out in relief against the new dwellings. These contrasts are not now an isolated feature of several parishes, but are rapidly becoming general throughout the district, although for certain reasons connected with water supply and sewage disposal some parishes have yet to be provided with a sufficiency of modern houses.

National economic difficulties have limited the number of houses which can be built by the Council, but I am hopeful that when the new Housing Bill becomes law that certain types of property may be re-conditioned or reconstructed. The present day cost of building of three bedroom parlour type of house is around £1,300 to £1,350, excluding cost of land, roads, sewers, etc. The economic rents of Council houses (exclusive of rates), after taking account of the housing subsidies, is, for parlour types with two bedrooms, 11/9 ; three bedrooms, 13/9 ; four bedrooms, 14/6 ; bungalows, 9/- per week. The total subsidies payable for 60 years for the cottages occupied by agricultural workers is £28 10s. 0d. and for non-agricultural workers £22 per year. Full details of the housing progress of the Council from 1912 is given in Table No. 7, page 22, together with full details of the various subsidies. Other housing details are given in Table No. 6, page 21.

The number of new houses erected by the Council during the year ended 31st December, 1948, was 254, and the number erected by private enterprise was 9.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.—The number of cowsheds on the register as at 31st December was 224 and the following inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspector :

Cowsheds	146
Cowsheds, defects found and remedied	40
Cowsheds, reconstructed and reconditioned	11
Milk samples taken	52
Total	249

Under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, the Local Authority will cease to be concerned with the producer aspect of the milk trade and will be mainly interested in the distribution of milk for retail sale to the public. Apart from water supply and drainage on milk producing farms the work of supervising milk production, etc., will be taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture. The control of milk suspected to be infected with disease will remain with the Council. The date for the new Milk Act and the several Regulations made under it has been fixed to come into operation on 1st October, 1949.

Milk Supply.—Samples of milk taken in the course of delivery to the consumers have been submitted at regular intervals to the County Laboratory for examination as to cleanliness and keeping quality. The samples are submitted to a standardised methylene blue test to determine if the milk will be sufficiently fresh to be drinkable for some 24 hours after delivery to the consumer. The number of samples so submitted and the classification of the results were :

<i>Classification</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent.</i>
Good	40	77
Moderate	5	9
Poor	7	14
Total	52	—

The results of the tests showed that 77% of the samples conformed to the prescribed test for accredited milk, and generally the results were more favourable than the reports for 1947, when 74% of samples were classified as good. The classification of the results is arbitrary and based on a County standard, since there are no prescribed tests for the bacteriological cleanliness and keeping quality of non-designated milk. Further details of the results of the tests are given in Table No. 8, page 23.

Food Premises.—The hygiene of premises where food for human consumption is prepared and sold have received special attention by the Sanitary Inspector. In addition the roadside cafes on the Watling Street which cater for long distance lorry drivers have been regularly inspected. No complaints worthy of note have been received and I am pleased to record that the proprietors of the cafes welcome the assistance and advice offered by the Sanitary Inspector.

The following visits of inspection were made by the Sanitary Inspector :

Meat hawkers' vans	..	..	..	36
Fish hawkers' vans	..	..	..	16
Fried fish hawkers' vans	..	..	..	20
Fruit hawkers' vans	..	..	..	16
Provision vans	..	..	..	7
Bakehouses	..	..	..	20
Total	..	..	..	<u>115</u>

Meat Inspection, etc.—The number of premises where slaughtering was carried out was as follows :—

Slaughterhouses licensed	..	..	..	3
Slaughterhouses registered	..	..	..	23
Total	..	..	..	<u>26</u>

The following visits were paid to slaughterhouses and butchers' shops for the purposes of the Rural District Councils (Slaughterhouses) Order, 1924.

Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	108
Butchers' shops	..	..	..	54
Total	..	..	..	<u>162</u>

Details of the quantities of meat and other foods surrendered and destroyed are given in Table No. 9, page 23.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Smallpox.—No cases were notified.

Scarlet Fever.—Eight cases were notified as compared with seven in 1947. The cases continue to be of mild clinical type and no deaths were recorded.

Diphtheria.—No cases were notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—The responsibility for providing diphtheria immunisation for the community became the responsibility of the County Council as the Local Health Authority on 5th July. It is estimated that some 72% of the child population under 15 years of age were immunised at the end of the year. If this relatively high level of immunity is to be maintained it is essential that there be no slacking off in the number of parents who have their children immunised. Any child can be immunised free of charge by the family doctor or at a child welfare clinic. The best age for a baby to be immunised is about the eighth month and in any case not later than the first birthday. Children immunised in infancy should have their level of immunity reinforced before they attend school by receiving an additional injection.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No cases were notified in the district.

Pneumonia.—Thirteen cases of acute primary pneumonia or acute influenzal pneumonia were notified as compared with 25 in 1947. The cases were distributed in nine parishes and the incidence of notification was 0.61 per thousand, as compared with 0.73 for the county as a whole. "Pneumonia" was the certified cause of death in five cases. These deaths are not necessarily those of patients who were notified.

Erysipelas.—Two cases were notified as compared with a similar number in 1947. There were no deaths.

Measles.—The incidence of this disease was heavy compared with 1947. Amongst 18 parishes 235 cases were notified, as compared with 186 from 17 parishes in the previous year. The case morbidity was 16.9 per thousand of population, as compared with 9.34 for England and Wales. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.—Eighty-three cases were notified amongst 15 parishes, as compared with 80 cases amongst 10 parishes in 1947. The incidence amounted to 5.96 per thousand, as compared with 3.42 for England and Wales. One child aged six months died from the disease.

Anterior Poliomyelitis.—The district was fortunate in that only one case was notified. This occurred in a female patient at Paulerspury. Recovery from the acute phase took place but the patient had residual paralysis of the right leg.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.—No cases of food poisoning came to notice.

Paratyphoid B Fever.—Although not notified in the district it was known that a case belonging to Pattishall had been notified to Northampton Borough from the General Hospital. Investigation suggested that the infection had been acquired during a holiday.

Tuberculosis.—Nine new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (five male, four female) were notified, as compared with two in 1947. One non-pulmonary (male) was also notified. Three males and four females died from the disease during the year. At the end of the year there were 65 persons in the district known to be suffering from tuberculosis (46 pulmonary, 19 non-pulmonary). The age and sex incidence of new cases and deaths from the disease are given in Table No. 13, page 26.

The number of deaths, together with the crude rate during the quinquennium 1944–48, and those for the administrative county, are as follows :

Tuberculosis Mortality.					
	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Towcester R.D.	0.219 (3*)	0.592 (8*)	0.222 (3*)	0.299 (4*)	0.503 (7*)
Administrative County . .	0.621	0.580	0.450	0.360	0.420

* *Number of Deaths.*

No action was taken during 1948 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

In April, the Council made available free of charge to the County Council the Town Hall for use of the Mass Radiography Unit. A survey which included work-people from factories, children from Towcester and neighbouring schools and some members of the public was carried out. A total of 947 persons were examined and of this number 59 were recalled for further investigation.

Full statistical details, showing age, monthly and parish incidence, etc., for infectious diseases and tuberculosis are shown in Tables Nos. 10–13, pages 24–26.

SECTION G.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1948.

Table No. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1948.

<i>Causes of Death</i>						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
5.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	3	2	5
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	—	2	2
8.	Syphilitic diseases	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
9.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
10.	Measles	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
11.	Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) ; uterus (F)	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	4	1	5
15.	Cancer of breast	..	..	..	..	—	5	5
16.	Cancer of all other sites	..	..	..	..	8	6	14
17.	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	..	..	..	..	13	15	28
19.	Heart disease	..	..	..	..	28	32	60
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	..	..	..	..	5	1	6
21.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	4	2	6
22.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	2	3	5
23.	Other respiratory diseases	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
28.	Nephritis	..	..	..	..	7	3	10
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
31.	Premature birth	..	..	..	..	—	2	2
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile diseases	..	..	..	..	5	3	8
33.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
34.	Road traffic accidents	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
35.	Other violent causes	..	..	..	..	2	3	5
36.	All other causes	..	..	..	..	5	6	11
ALL CAUSES						91	93	184

Table No. 2.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR, 1948.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Age in weeks</i>					<i>Total</i>
	—1	—2	—3	—4	5-52	
I. Congenital malformations ..	2	—	1	—	1	4
II. Diseases of early infancy						
Congenital debility and icterus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ..	2	—	—	—	—	2
Injury at birth ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis ..	2	—	—	—	—	2
Others ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
III. Diseases of Respiratory system	1	—	1	—	—	2
IV. Diseases of Digestive system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
V. Diseases of Nervous system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
VI. Tuberculous diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Infectious diseases ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
VIII. Syphilis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Overlaying ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
X. Other violence ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
XI. All other causes ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS ..	8	—	2	—	3	13

Table No. 3.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1948 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Population</i>	<i>Births</i>		<i>Deaths</i>			
		<i>No.</i>	<i>Rate</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>		<i>All Ages</i>	
				<i>No.</i>	<i>Rate</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Rate</i>
*1911	10,484	—	—	—	—	—	—
1919	†9,387	156	16.61	7	44.87	158	17.53
	‡9,011						
1920	9,370	259	27.64	15	57.90	146	15.58
*1921	9,920	211	21.27	21	99.52	131	13.20
1922	9,937	172	17.30	9	52.32	136	13.68
1923	9,944	171	17.19	9	52.63	120	12.06
1924	10,000	162	16.20	9	55.50	115	11.50
1925	9,959	150	15.06	8	53.33	123	12.35
1926	9,870	152	15.40	5	32.89	116	11.75
1927	9,887	144	14.56	8	55.55	115	11.63
1928	9,502	134	14.10	4	29.85	120	12.63
1929	9,398	139	14.79	6	43.16	138	14.68
1930	9,384	115	12.25	8	69.56	129	13.74
*1931	9,324	131	14.04	7	53.43	104	11.11
1932	9,324	118	12.65	0	00.00	114	12.22
1933	9,271	147	15.85	4	27.21	96	10.35
1934	9,200	114	12.39	5	43.80	132	14.34
1935	§13,155	180	13.67	7	38.88	181	13.75
1936	13,040	210	16.10	10	47.60	165	12.60
1937	12,900	170	13.20	9	52.90	197	15.30
1938	12,860	152	11.80	4	26.30	182	14.20
1939	†12,930	184	14.20	5	27.11	170	13.06
	‡13,020						
1940	13,290	184	13.90	7	36.95	219	16.55
1941	14,750	203	13.80	14	68.96	211	14.31
1942	14,050	244	17.40	12	49.18	147	10.47
1943	13,690	254	18.55	14	55.11	193	14.23
1944	13,680	242	17.67	8	33.01	192	14.04
1945	13,500	228	16.14	5	22.80	174	12.88
1946	13,490	273	20.24	13	47.25	178	13.19
1947	13,750	283	20.58	8	28.19	178	12.94
1948	13,910	238	17.11	13	54.52	184	13.23

† Population for calculation of Birth Rates.

‡ Population for calculation of Death Rates.

§ Potterspury R.D. added to district.

* Census years.

Table No. 4.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. taken</i>		<i>Results</i>			
	<i>Private</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Sus- picious</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Faecal Pollution Present</i>
Blisworth	4 —	— 5	— 2	1 —	3 3	2 2
Cosgrove	2 —	— 1	1 1	— —	1 —	1 —
Grafton Regis	1	—	—	1	—	—
Passenham	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pattishall	3	—	1	—	2	2
Paulerspury	1 —	— 2	— 1	— 1	1 —	1 —
Potterspury	—	2	—	1	1	—
Silverstone	2 —	— 1	— 1	— —	2 —	2 —
Slapton	1	—	1	—	—	—
Stoke Bruerne	1	—	—	—	1	—
Tiffield	—	1	—	—	1	—
Towcester	—	2	2	—	—	—
Weston and Weedon ..	1	—	—	—	1	1
Wicken	1 —	— 1	— —	— —	1 1	1 1
TOTALS ..	17	16	11	4	18	13

Table No. 5.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, ETC., 1948.

No. of visits and inspections	..	..	..	..	..	3,326
Canal Boats inspected	..	..	..	..	..	6
Slaughterhouses licensed	..	..	..	..	..	3
Slaughterhouses on register	..	..	..	..	..	23
Visits to slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	108
Visits to butchers' shops	..	..	..	..	..	54
No. of meat hawkers' vans inspected	..	..	..	..	..	36
No. of fish hawkers' vans inspected	..	..	..	..	..	16
No. of fruit hawkers' vans inspected	..	..	..	..	..	16
No. of fried fish hawkers' vans inspected	..	..	..	..	..	20
Provision vans inspected	..	..	..	..	..	7
Bakehouses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	25
Privies converted to pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	3
Pails to water closets	..	..	..	..	..	12
Caravans inspected	..	..	..	..	..	14
Cowsheds on register	..	..	..	..	..	224
Cowsheds inspected	..	..	..	..	..	146
Cowsheds, defects found and remedied	..	..	..	..	..	40
Cowsheds reconstructed and reconditioned	..	..	..	..	..	11
Outfall works cleaned out	..	..	..	..	..	75
Settling tanks cleaned out	..	..	..	..	..	210
Cesspools cleaned out	..	..	..	..	..	375
Rooms disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	14
Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	233
Drains tested by water test	..	..	..	..	..	62
Drains tested by smoke test	..	..	..	..	..	70
Nuisances from untrapped drains	..	..	..	..	..	2
Nuisances from blocked drains	..	..	..	..	..	74
Nuisances from defects in houses	..	..	..	..	..	260
Nuisances from offensive ditches	..	..	..	..	..	6
No. of new houses erected by private enterprise	..	..	..	..	..	9
No. of new houses erected by Council	..	..	..	..	..	254
Notices served :						
Informal under S.92, Public Health Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	79
Statutory under S.92, Public Health Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	8

Table No. 6.

HOUSING.

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the year—

1.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	386
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	..	..	502
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Reg. 1925/32	..	..	..	..	..	52
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	..	..	60
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	..					52
4.		Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under preceding sub-head) not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	..	..				260

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice—

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of action by Local Authority or Officers—

Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>
Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	252

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—*A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936—*

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>
2.		Dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notice—							
	(a)	By owners	..	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	..	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
2.		Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—							
	(a)	By owners	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	..	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

1.		Dwelling-houses in respect of Demolition Order	..	..	..	..	..	13
2.		Dwelling-houses demolished	..	..	..	..	..	8

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

1.		Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>
2.		Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined	..	..	..	..	..	<i>nil</i>

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding—

		Number of dwellings overcrowded	Not known
--	--	---------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----------

Table No. 7.

STATISTICS OF HOUSING PROGRESS.

Houses erected by Council			Act under which erected	Annual Contributions per house											
Finan- cial Year	No. erec- ted during year	Total to end of year		From Government		From Rates									
				Period Years	Amount	From R.D. Council			From County Council						
						Period Years	Amount	Period Years	Amount						
				£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
1912/31	B/F	101	Housing (Financial	40	11	0	0	60	3	6	7	—	—		
1931/32	4	105	Provisions) Act,	40	11	0	0	60	3	6	7	—	—		
1932/33	12		1924	40	11	0	0	60	3	6	7	—	—		
	4		do.	40	11	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	4	125	do.	40	11	0	0	—	—	—	40	1	0	0	
1933/34	22		do.	40	11	0	0	60	3	6	7	—	—		
	8		do.	40	11	0	0	—	—	—	40	1	0	0	
	20		do.	40	11	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	8		do.	40	7	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	12	195	Housing Act, 1930	40	11	3	9	60	3	5	4	—	—		
1934/35	4		Housing (Financial	40	11	0	0	60	3	6	7	—	—		
			Provisions) Act,												
			1924												
	4	203	do.	40	11	0	0	—	—	—	40	1	0	0	
1935/36	18		Housing Act, 1930	40	8	2	6	60	3	3	5	—	—		
	27		do.	40	8	2	6	60	3	3	10	—	—		
	6		do.	40	8	2	6	60	2	6	6	40	1	0	0
	4	258	do.	40	8	2	6	60	2	6	10	40	1	0	0
1937/38	21		Housing Act, 1936	40	8	15	9	60	2	6	6	40	1	0	0
	4		do.	40	8	15	9	60	2	7	1	40	1	0	0
	37		do.	40	8	15	9	60	3	3	5	—	—		
	14	334	do.	40	8	15	9	60	3	4	2	—	—		
1938/39	45		do.	40	7	12	10	60	2	7	1	40	1	0	0
	130		do.	40	7	12	10	60	3	4	2	—	—		
	2	527	do.	40	7	12	10	60	3	4	7	—	—		
	15		Housing (Financial	40	5	10	0	60	2	7	4	—	—		
			Provisions) Act,												
			1938												
	1	527	do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	2	40	1	0	0
1939/40	45		do.	40	5	10	0	60	2	7	4	—	—		
	20	593	do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	2	40	1	0	0
1940/41	6		do.	40	5	10	0	60	2	8	1	—	—		
	2		do.	40	5	10	0	60	2	7	4	—	—		
	2		do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	2	40	1	0	0
	6	609	do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	6	40	1	0	0
1943/44	2		do.	40	5	10	0	60	2	8	1	—	—		
	2	619	do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	6	40	1	0	0
	6	619	Housing (Fin. and	60	25	10	0	60	1	10	0	60	1	10	0
			Misc. Provisions)												
			Act, 1946												
1945/46	7		Housing (Financial	40	5	10	0	60	2	7	4	—	—		
			Provisions) Act,												
			1938												
	13	639	do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	2	40	1	0	0
1946/47	12		do.	40	5	10	0	60	2	7	4	—	—		
	20		do.	40	10	0	0	60		17	2	40	1	0	0
	41		Housing (Fin. and	60	16	10	0	60	5	10	0	—	—		
			Misc. Provisions)												
			Act, 1946												
	13		do.	60	25	10	0	60	1	10	0	60	1	10	0
	30	755	Housing (Tempor'y	—	—	—	—	10	21	10	0	—	—		
			Accommodation)												
			Act, 1944												
1947/48	64		Housing (Fin. and	60	16	10	0	60	5	10	0	—	—		
			Misc. Provisions)												
			Act, 1946												
	21	840	do.	60	25	10	0	60	1	10	0	60	1	10	0
1948/49	39		do.	60	25	10	0	60	1	10	0	60	1	10	0
	205	1,084	do.	60	16	10	0	60	5	10	0	—	—		

Table No. 8.

**SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS
OF CLEANLINESS AND KEEPING QUALITIES, 1948.**

<i>Month</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Poor</i>
January	5	4	—	1
February	—	—	—	—
March	7	5	—	2
April	5	2	1	2
May	6	6	—	—
June	6	5	1	—
July	—	—	—	—
August	5	4	1	—
September	7	5	1	1
October	—	—	—	—
November	6	6	—	—
December	5	3	1	1
TOTALS ..	52	40	5	7

8 Samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted for phosphatase test, 7 being satisfactory and 1 unsatisfactory.

Table No. 9.

FOOD SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED.

						<i>Tins</i>				
Tinned Milk .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	55				
Tinned Fish .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	43				
Tinned Vegetables .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	48				
Tinned Syrup .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1				
Tinned Fruit .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	26				
Preserves .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	11				
							<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Tinned Meat .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	—	—	2
Meat .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	2	—	17
Bacon .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	19½
Cheese .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	17
Sago .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	3	—	2
Fish.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	—	6	—	—	—

Table No. 9A.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	4,062
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	4,062
All diseases except Tuberculosis— Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	25
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	0.07
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	237
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	0.6

Table No. 10.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis), 1948.

<i>Disease</i>	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	<i>All Ages</i>	<i>Removal to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	8	1	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	3	3	3	13	—	5
Measles	9	16	18	15	27	129	16	3	—	2	—	—	235	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	6	7	8	7	17	34	3	1	—	—	—	—	83	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
TOTALS ..	15	23	26	22	45	166	24	6	3	5	4	3	342	2	6

Table No. 11.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis), 1948.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>September</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>December</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Scarlet Fever	1	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	8
Pneumonia	—	—	2	5	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	13
Measles	39	63	29	52	14	4	—	—	—	13	15	6	235
Whooping Cough ..	16	14	5	1	1	7	8	3	7	1	1	19	83
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ..	56	79	37	58	16	12	11	4	7	15	20	27	342

Table No. 12.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(other than Tuberculosis)
IN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES, 1948.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Acute Polio-myelitis</i>	<i>Total</i>
Abthorpe	—	—	3	1	—	—	4
Blakesley	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Blisworth	—	—	8	3	—	—	11
Cosgrove	—	1	15	8	—	—	24
Easton Neston ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Gayton	1	—	—	9	—	—	10
Greens Norton ..	—	1	9	—	—	—	10
Litchborough ..	—	—	7	3	—	—	10
Maidford	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Passenham	1	2	37	5	1	—	46
Pattishall	—	—	24	7	—	—	31
Paulerspury	2	4	33	—	—	1	40
Potterspury	—	1	31	20	—	—	52
Shutlanger	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
Silverstone	—	—	11	7	1	—	19
Stoke Bruerne ..	—	—	6	5	—	—	11
Tiffield	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Towcester	1	—	22	4	—	—	27
Weston & Weedon	—	—	9	—	—	—	9
Whittlebury	1	1	—	8	—	—	10
Wicken	—	1	8	—	—	—	9
Woodend	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Yardley Gobion ..	1	1	5	1	—	—	8
TOTALS ..	8	13	235	83	2	1	342

Table No. 13.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1948.

<i>Age Periods</i>	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	3	1	1	—	—	1	—	1
—35	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
—45	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
—55	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65+	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	5	4	1	—	2	2	1	2

Table No. 14.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, for the year 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)—

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	23	30	4	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	66	70	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	14	25	—	—
TOTAL	103	125	7	—

1.—Cases in which **defects** were found—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	1	1	—	1	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) ·					
(a) insufficient	2	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	1	1	—	1	—
TOTAL	8	8	—	6	—

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